

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: MIHARA et al.  
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Mail Stop Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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**AMENDMENT**

15 Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application being filed on even date herewith, please amend the patent application as follows:

20 **Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.